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TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Zdravko PALUNCIC

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2005_0204A

Filed April 7, 2005

CONNECTING DEVICE FOR A PIPE OR SIMILAR [Corresponding to PCT/EP2004/004586 Filed April 30, 2004]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend the application as follows: